

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SSC-01 PC-01 AID-05
IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /107 W
-----104548 250527Z /10

R 241020Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8199
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AF, PINR
SUBJECT: NEW DEPUTY MINISTERS IN THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT

REF: A. KABUL 3295 B. KABUL 3322

1. NOW THAT THE NEW AFGHAN REGIME HAS BEEN FORMALLY ORGANIZED PKTO A GOVERNMENT, RESPONSIBLE TO THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, IT IS MOVING TO FLESH ITSELF OUT BY APPOINTING THE SECOND LEVEL OF SENIOR OFFICIALS. THE PROCESS OF NAMING DEPUTY MINISTERS IS PRESENTLY INCOMPLETE, AND SOME OF THE NAMES REPORTED HERE HAVE NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED. LIKE MANY OF THE MINISTERS THEMSELVES, MOST OF THE DEPUTY MINISTERS HAVE SERVED IN RELATIVELY OBSCURE POSITIONS AND ARE VIRTUALLY UNKNOWN. SOME DO SEEM, HOWEVER, TO HAVE TECHNICAL COMPETENCE AND EXPERTISE, ALTHOUGH FEW HAVE HAD ANY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PREVIOUS MAJOR MANAGERIAL OR EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITY.

2. THE FOLLOWING DEPUTY MINISTERS HAVE BEEN NAMED OFFICIALLY OR IDENTIFIED BY RELIABLE SOURCES;

A. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE: FAZEL RAHIM RAHIM -- A HOLDOVER FROM THE DAOUD GOVERNMENT; CONSIDDRED REASONABLY COM-

PETENT AND TECHNOCRATIC. HE HAD SECRETLY BEEN A MEMBER OF THE KHALQ PARTY DURING THE DAOUD ERA.

B. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE: ABDUL SALAM -- WHO UNTIL EARLY 1977 WAS PRESIDENT OF FOREIGN TRADE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (AND WAS REPORTEDLY TRANSFERRED TO A LESS RESPONSIBLE POSITION AT THAT TIME BECAUSE OF HIS "LEFTIST ORIENTATIONS").

C. MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS: MOHAMMAD ZARIF -- THE FORMER HEAD OF KABUL UNIVERSITY'S SEISMOLOGICAL STATION.

D. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION: FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER: MOHAMMAD YASSIN BUNYADI -- A FORMER MEMBER OF THE SECOND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY; SECOND DEPUTY MINISTER: ABDUL QAYUM NOORZAI -- A MEMBER OF THE "PUSHTU TOLANA" (THE PUSHTU ACADEMY).

E. MINISTRY OF FINANCE: MIR MEHRABUDI (PAKTIAWAL) -- HAS WORKED IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SINCE EARLY 1950S; A COMMUNIST; PHD IN POLITICAL ECONOMICS, PLANNING AND FINANCE, FROM UNIVERSITY IN BULGARIA.

F. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: SECRETARY-GENERAL: ABDUL WAIL -- A YOUNG (33) KHALQ PARTY APPARATCHIK WITH A KABUL UNIVERSITY DEGREE IN ECONOMICS AND NO TRAVEL EXPERIENCE OUTSIDE AFGHANISTAN; DEPUTY MINISTERS, SHAH MOHAMMAD DOST AND ABDUL HADI MOKAMEL -- ORIGINALLY NAMED AS CO-MINISTERS (REFTEL B). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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G. MINISTRY OF FRONTIER AFFAIRS: MOHAMMAD OSMAN WAHIDI -- ANOTHER HOLDOVER FROM THE DAOUD REGIME; FORMERLY A CAREER OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WHO MADE TWO AID-SPONSORED TRAINING VISITS TO THE UNITED STATES; IS INCLUDED IN THE EMBASSY'S PLBRL.

H. MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION: ENGINEER PIER ZERAY -- FORMERLY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN AND CULTURAL RELATIONS AT KABUL UNIVERISTY; MEMBER OF THE KHALQ PARTY.

I. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE: ABDUL RASHID ARIAN (PUBLICATIONS) -- FORMERLY WORKED 11 YEARS IN THIS MINISTRY AND THEN WAS AT HOME FOR LAST 8 YEARS DEVOTING HIS TIME, AS HE TOLD EMBOFFS, "TO POLITICAL ACTIVITIES;" MOHAMMAD AMIN AFGHANPOUR (ARTS AND CULTURE) -- NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIQYE.

J. MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR: DRM. NAJIB -- MEMBER OF KHALQ PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE; WAS ACTIVE IN PARVTAM WING WHEN PARTY WAS SPLIT; FAMILY IS FROM PESHAWAR.

K. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE: MOHAMMAD AKRAM ABQARI (ADMINISTRATION) -- FORMERLY PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE; DR. EHSAN ROSTAMAL (JUDICIAL AFFAIRS) -- NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

L. MINISTRY OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES: DEPUTY MINISTER FOR INDUSTRIES: GHULAM MOHAMMAD RAHIM -- NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME; DEPUTY MINNSTER FOR MINES: ENGINEER ABDUL KAFI (OR QAFI) RASSOULI -- NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. BOTH REPORTEDLY MINOR OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY BEFORE THE COUP.

M. MINISTRY OF PLANNING: FATEH MOHAMMAD TAREEN -- NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

N. MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH: DR. ABDUL MOHAMMAD DARMANGAR (WE CANNOT YET CONFIRM WHETHER THIS APPOINTMENT IS DEFINITE) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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-- FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE PREVENTIVE MEDICINE DEPARTMENT OF THAT MINISTRY.

O. MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKDS: MOHAMMAD SARWAR AKBARI -- FORMERLY DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR PERSONNEL AND FOR PLANNING IN THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS.

P. MINISTRY OF RADIO AND TELEVISION: KHAL MOHAMMAD KATAWAZI, WHO WAS, UNTIL THE COUP, A LOW RANKING OFFICIAL IN RADIO AFGHANISTAN.

Q. MINISTRY OF WATER AND POWER: DR. RAZ MOHAMMAD PAKTEEN -- FORMER PROFESSOR AT SOVIET-SPONSORED POLY-TECHNI INSTITUTE; RECEIVED DEGREE IN 1969 FROM THE MOSCOW ENGINEERING INSTITUTE.

3. NO DEPUTY MINISTERS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED AS YET IN THE MINISTRIES OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL DEFENSE. ELIOT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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